



Shire of Lake Grace

PO Box 50 Lake Grace WA 6353 Phone 9890 2500 Fax 9890 2599
Email shire@lakegrace.wa.gov.au Website www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au

Lake Grace—All Age's Playground Community Fact Sheet - No 2 April 2014

In the spirit of greater community consultation, Shire staff have put together additional information to encourage discussion on the proposed All Ages Playground to ensure as many people as possible have the opportunity to express their views and that Council is better informed when it comes to determining whether this project is supported and if so, to what extent.

It is important for all to understand that this process of community engagement is about "testing the water", is the project one that has merit? does it contribute to the enhancement of services, social wellbeing and would it raise the profile of Lake Grace as a caring community and one that will attract and retain residents?

Following on from the earlier Fact Sheet, a number of comments have been received both for and against the project. Fact Sheet No. 2 addresses these comments received and provides further information and clarity on matters raised. It is about providing information and ensuring the community is well informed about the proposal, the options for the playground location and how the project would sit in the context of other activities and facilities in the recreation area.

When developing the Shire's Strategic Community Plan, a good deal of consultation was undertaken to ascertain the views of the community and what it saw as key issues for the Shire to consider. The Plan is very strongly focused on the need for greater community consultation and the need to include residents in the decision making process, particularly when it comes to projects that require investment of ratepayer funds.

Fact Sheet 2 builds on the earlier consultation process of Fact Sheet 1 to ensure that all residents are given every opportunity to be involved.

I encourage everyone to take advantage of this process, discuss it with their fellow residents and Councillors and provide your comments as requested.

Neville Hale
Chief Executive Officer

Community Consultation

As per the Shire of Lake Grace Policy Manual:

Policy 1.12 Community Engagement Objectives:

To ensure the residents of the Shire of Lake Grace have the maximum opportunity to contribute to their own social, economic and community well-being as well as good governance through information, consultation and active participation in the development of major programs, projects and events throughout the shire. Adopted 27 April 2011—Motion 11204.

An initial plan has been programmed as per below to inform residents and allow for community feedback.

Community Fact Sheet 1 - February 2014

To initially let the community know of the proposed project, the research done to date and to request written feedback for alternative sites and or proposals.
COMPLETED

Community Fact Sheet No 2 - April 2014

To let the community know of all the feedback from Community Fact Sheet 1 and if possible to give some indication of budget for each proposal.

Public Meeting - July 2014

Have completed budget costs and drawings for each identified site. Provide feedback from funding bodies re potential success of grants to be submitted.

Council meetings February (completed), March (completed), April, May, June, July 2014

Keep Councillors informed of the progress of the project at the information sessions after the Council meeting. Agenda item to Council once design and costing's completed.

June 2014

Budget request for 2014/2015 budget and identification of funding opportunities.

For further information please contact Manager Community Services Ms Lee Holben on 98902500 or mcms@lakegrace.wa.gov.au.



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Feedback Community Fact Sheet 1—February 2014

Below are dot point (o) comments from the twenty one letters received in response to the information provided in Community Fact Sheet 1, February 2014. Responses are identified in **bold italic**, not all comments required a response.

Tennis Courts	Pav	General Support	The Shed	No bene- fit to rest of Shire	Gum- tree Drive	Total
8	2	2	1	2	1	21

- o Unique concept encapsulating the agricultural community of Lake Grace, local flora and fauna—brilliant, often hear comments on the lack of originality in playgrounds and playground equipment. What a fantastic way to encourage local children to get out and play and for tourists to stop.
- o Toilets/change rooms unsafe.

Until a site has been identified it is unclear if toilets will be modified and or new toilets constructed.

- o Lake Grace key projects working separately—will this affect funding?

Funding will be sought from specific funding bodies who support projects of this nature.

- o Cleverly thought out.
- o Will attract tourists x **3 comments.**
- o It seems there is differing understandings on what was to become of the old courts. If the people involved in the original funding application can't recall any such agreement being made then maybe the Shire staff need to follow up on this and provide proof of this agreement. Simply saying so, isn't good enough. As no current Shire community services staff were here when the funding agreement was made many residents are finding it difficult to believe that is the case.

Shire staff made contact with Department of Sport and Recreation in December 2013 to confirm the funding bodies condition of grant. Response is below:

It is my understanding that funding was successful for the construction of new courts on the basis that the old

would be decommissioned. This was stipulated in the grant agreement .

Obviously a local need for not decommissioning the old courts was argued by the club and subsequently these courts were not decommissioned and have since been used as required.

The Shire of Lake Grace was funded for new courts on the basis that the old ones were no longer needed. From a CSRFF perspective any future requests for re-surfacing of these courts would not be supported.

I would suggest that to keep additional courts for one tournament a year is not a great investment and alternative solutions should be investigated to run that tournament; revise current scheduling - start earlier finish later perhaps over two days or even sharing the tournament with a neighbouring town. It is up to the Shire of Lake Grace and the tennis club to make that this determination however.

This grant was approved over 12 years ago; the LGA obviously decided that there was a local need to keep the old courts; similarly it is a local decision as to whether or not they should now be decommissioned.

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- o Would it be possible to include some musical instruments.

To be considered.

- o Do not want to pay to go to the playground when there are home games.
- o Could all residents—including residents who own property in Lake Grace but live elsewhere be sent the fact sheets.

To be undertaken.



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- o Include an Area 7 for seniors, gym style equipment and swings that will take the weight of an adult..

To be considered.

- o Will only benefit Lake Grace residents and not the other towns ie Newdegate, Lake King and Varley.
- o Skate Park can't be moved, if it can then can it be moved to other parts of the shire.

To be investigated.

- o Fact sheet 1 states "Should the project be endorsed by Council, funding applications will be submitted. . ." I would have thought these funding applications and available grants, would have been looked into and presented to Council, before Council endorsement.

MOTION 11720

That Council endorse staff to proceed with:

- 1. Identifying funding sources to financially support the construction of an All Ages Playground in Lake Grace.**
- 2. Identifying a suitable site within the township of Lake Grace for an All Ages Playground.**
- 3. Community consultation in regards to the suitability and need of an All Ages Playground in Lake Grace.**

Until a site has been identified no detailed budget can be acquired as each site will have its own impact on the budget.

- o Be managed by the Recreation Council.

To be investigated.

- o How safe to have a playground near the main road—traffic as well as weidos.

As with other major playgrounds ie Narrogin, appropriate fencing will be part of the project.

- o Could playground be on other side of Pavilion.

Due to space constraints this would not be possible. It is important to have a playground in a area that is highly visual as this prevents children being at risk from predators.

- o During games etc how could parents watch

children as well as play and or volunteer at the canteen.

- o Project should be funded by people of Lake Grace, through grants available to them and through their Specified Area Rates, as there is no benefit to the rest of the shire.
- o Any proposed rate increase/loan on any major infrastructure residents should have say.

Policy 3.3 Specified Area Rates (key components).

Part d) All Council capital contributions to recreational and cultural activities. Where Council's contribution to a project under the specified area rate exceed \$50,000 the project is to be first approved by way of community survey.

Part f) For a community survey to be successful, greater than 50% of the eligible voters are to participate and more than 50% of returned votes are to be in favour of the proposal.

- o Safe access between sportsman club, pavilion and ovals. What is the proposed solution to this?

Until a site has been identified and the project endorsed by Council and the community no solutions to any issues can be commented on.

- o Shire of Lake Grace lacks the capacity to ensure successful completion and management of projects.
- o Essential that Playgroup or other community group be involved and include the pool—would be good to see baby/toddler swimming awareness being taught at the pool.

Representatives from Playground have been involved in the discussions with the coordinators of this project.

- o I know of families who especially plan their trips around the "great" playgrounds with all the facilities. Stopping in that town, going to the café, road house, shop etc, spending money in the community.
- o Another option for the all ages playground could be an extension of the current playground within Gumtree Drive.

This was included in Community Fact Sheet 1 February 2014 for residents to comment on.



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- Old tennis courts currently idle land and an eyesore, not a good entry into our normally very tidy town **x 2 comments.**
- If close to pavilion visitors would not see it as accessible especially on sports days.
- The shed not safe for toddlers to play and run around.
- The quote provided does not include earthworks, fencing etc—what is etc and how much will it cost.

Once a site has been identified and the project endorsed by Council and the community full project costings can be sought and presented to the community,

- Will maintenance plans and budget be made available at the public meetings.
- Is there provision in the budget for long term maintenance and repair to the proposed large shade structure.
- How will this maintenance budget be managed?

Policy 7.9 Asset Management (Key components)

In making informed decisions in relation to infrastructure assets, the Shire will consider the following key principles:

All capital projects will be evaluated in terms of "whole of life cost assessment."

- Why was the area around the pavilion and ovals disregarded in terms of lack of shade, based on the provided information it should make no difference.

Sites proposed on the Community Fact Sheet No 1 February 2014 are suggestions only, an opportunity for the community to have their say about the proposed sites and or propose other potential sites.

- Power and water is already connected at all proposed sites except Gumtree Ave. Are there special requirements needed to update existing connections points?

These comments were highlighting only some of the benefits of each site to give residents and indication of what would need to be considered for other sites that the community may identify.

- Pre-existing AstroTurf may be reused- according to playground legislation this cannot be reused for any part of the playground surface. The AstroTurf is already deteriorating and it is possible it may not be able to be re-laid in other

areas. Is there provision in the initial budget estimate for an alternative?

The Comment in the Community Fact Sheet 1 stated : "Pre-existing astroturf might be able to be re-used."

- How come other plans already under construction, or in the process of planning, were not considered nor was any information about this provided in the factsheet.

Once a site has been identified its relationship to any other project currently under way or proposed in the future will be looked at.

- A second alternative could be caravan parking area by the existing BBQ and picnic area on the main road. Although this area is considerable smaller, there is provision to reduce expenditure by utilising BBQ and picnic area and ablutions which are already maintained by the Shire.
- If the area around the pavilion complex is not suffice would consideration be given the area between the oval and old change rooms as well as the old basketball courts.

Options 1, 2, and 3 at the Old Tennis court area includes this area.

- The Lake Grace Tennis Club would like to propose that Option 1, areas 3, 4 and 5 be moved to the west enabling, at least, two tennis courts on the east (closest to the shire building) to remain. Or in Option 2, move area 5 to the west of the current skate park (old netball courts).
- When is Lake Grace Shire going to recognise that Lake King and Varley are a part of the Shire and build a better relationship with us.

Staff and Councillors frequently attend Lake King and Varley Progress meetings as well as regular contact to work with residents from those areas. Examples being the new playground, the Tractor Museum and the old goods shed at Lake King.

- With work beginning on the extension of the sports pavilion we (Lake Grace Tennis Club) feel the playground would be of more benefit within the new sporting precinct to enable spectators to view games and also keep an eye on young children within the playground.

Concept 2 takes this into consideration.



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From comments and suggestions made in response to the Community Fact Sheet 1 February 2014 below is the concept no 2 formulated from these suggestions and ideas.

Lake Grace Tennis courts (old)/Recreational Ground

Area 1 - Toilets and BBQ area

- o Child friendly toilets,
- o Undercover area/shed,
- o BBQ's, tables and benches
- o Bins around the area- to look like grain silo's.
- o Drinking water fountains.

Area 2 - Toddler Play area

- o Individual play equipment specific for toddlers
- o Soft fall ground cover
- o Musical instruments

Area 3 - Junior and teenagers play area

- o Large shade structure without walls
- o Play equipment

- o Swings
- o Slides
- o Rope Course

Area 4 - Sheep Yard Maze

- o Maze made out of sheep yard fencing with four entrances.
- o Five different areas with three walls one metre high, one with grain, one with sheep/cows/pigs, one with tractors/headers/trucks, one with kangaroos, rabbits, foxes and one with salt lakes/silos/trains.

Area 5 - Mini Lake Grace Track

- o Paint Lake Grace town site on the ground with the business's and road signs.

Area 6 - Skate Park

Current facility to remain where it is.

Area 7—Outdoor gym equipment and senior area

- o Outdoor gym equipment
- o Other equipment for seniors to be investigated

